

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. The claims presented for reconsideration are claims 1-7, 9, and 11-18. Claims 8, 10, and 19-42 have been canceled.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-7, 9, and 11-18 have been provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-31 of copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/924016, now granted U.S. Patent No. 6,812,372. In response to this rejection, applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer. Accordingly, a rejection of the claims of this application is rendered moot in view of the Terminal Disclaimer.

Having demonstrated that the claims of this application are allowable over the cited reference, this application is in condition for allowance. Applicants request early and favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1712 (Docket 2001B031A).

Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney if there are any issues outstanding which have not been presented to the Examiner's satisfaction.

Respectfully submitted,

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